

Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



Air Power
Quote of the Week

"The first and absolute requirement of strategic air power in war is to carry out sustained operations without prohibitive losses."

—Gen. Carl A. Spaatz

Vol. 50, No. 2

www.laughlin.af.mil

Jan. 18, 2002

Laughlin gears up for tax season

By 2nd Lt. Cherie Griffin

47th Flying Training Wing Legal Office

Free help is being offered to assist local active-duty and retired military members, reservists and eligible dependents through tax season.

The Laughlin Tax Center trained 28 volunteers from various base units in a volunteer income tax assistance training seminar Monday through Thursday.

VITA can help people prepare and electronically file their income tax returns. Electronic filing can speed up the time it takes to receive tax returns and provides the option of paying taxes electronically by withdrawing the money directly from your bank account.

VITA representatives will

See 'Taxes,' page 5



Photo by Airman Timothy J. Stein

Manuel Zera, Internal Revenue Service agent, teaches the basics of the volunteer income tax assistance program to Airman 1st Class Eloy Fernandez-Gonzalez, 47th Medical Group lab technician.

Wing commander hosts town hall meeting

By Airman Timothy J. Stein

Staff writer

Base people had a chance to ask questions and express concerns about the base exchange and commissary Tuesday during a town hall meeting held at the Fiesta Center.

The meeting, the third in a series, was attended by about a hundred people.

"Town hall meetings are the best way to get everyone's concerns on the table," said Col. Rick Rosborg, 47th Flying Training Wing

Commander.

Betty O'Brien, general manager of the South Texas exchange, was the main Army and Air Force Exchange Stores representative at the meeting. AAFES runs the base exchange and shopette.

How AAFES arrives at the price of gas at the shopette was a subject many in attendance had on their mind. O'Brien explained that they monitor the prices at five local stations in the area and match the lowest prices.

Others in attendance were displeased with the amount and kind of merchandise at the main BX.

O'Brien explained they were going to try to bring more things in, and that if they don't have something, one can order it through AAFES catalogs or over the Internet. She also said she would soon hire a courier to travel back and forth to San Antonio to pick up items ordered through stores in that area. A

See 'Town hall,' page 5

Base bonfire, hayride set

By Senior Airman

Brad Pettit

Editor

The base picnic grounds will be the site of Laughlin's first-ever Hayride and Hoe-down celebration from 5 to 8 p.m. Jan. 25.

A hayride, bonfire, food, bouncing castle and live musical entertainment by The Borderline Singers, retired Maj. Gen. Gerald Prather's band, will be available for all ages at a cost of \$3 per individual.

Col. Rick Rosborg, 47th Flying Training Wing Commander, said he hopes to host many more activities like the hayride and hoe-down.

"These events are fun and encourage esprit de corps and a sense of community for our base people and their families," he said. "Laughlin will hold more activities like this to continue our goal of growing Air Force families."

Those wishing to attend the hayride and hoe-down should call Doug Peckham at Outdoor Recreation at 298-5830 no later than Wednesday so that a head count can be made by event organizers.

the inside
Scoop

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Airmen, sailors and Marines show respect for the stars and stripes at NFL playoff wild-card game.

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Commanders' Corner

By Maj. Joel Dickinson
47th Security Forces Squadron Commander

Make sure you 'know what you know'

Long ago I was sitting in a class when the professor posed the question, "how do you know what you know?" Then some enlightening and somewhat esoteric debate ensued. I won't go into that, but the saying and thought process stayed with me.

It is meant to stimulate one to think through what someone is telling you or what you are considering telling someone else. Miscommunication causes all kinds of problems, and the less that occurs the more smoothly things will run. Giving someone bad information can also damage your reputation and your perceived reliability.

This thought should provoke a mental process in order to determine if you really know what you think you know.

Think through things like: Did you see what happened or are you relying on secondhand information? Have you discussed the event with more than one person and do their observations match? Is the source of your information impeccably reliable or not? Have you looked at the Air Force Instruction or other directives, and is what you are told

"However, I know one person it has saved from reporting erroneous information up the chain of command on more than one occasion."

really what is written?

There are many ways to verify information and the intent is not to scrutinize everything you're told

or telling, but on the important issues it may be wise to do it every time.

It's a simple process that's not infallible. However, I know one person it has saved from reporting erroneous information up the chain of command on more than one occasion. And I know how I know that.

Top Three Talk

By Master Sgt. Kevin Carr
47th Support Group fuel quality assurance evaluator



Quality of life and benefits put Air Force above others

I enlisted in the Air Force from Beaufort, S.C. My father was in the Navy and we traveled a lot. Military life was not new to me, and I kind of had an idea on what to expect. In my opinion, the Air Force is a much better way of life than in the Navy.

My job in the Air Force is fuels technician, and I am currently working in the position of fuels quality assurance here at Laughlin.

After a not-so-stupendous year and a half at the University of South

Carolina, I dropped out of school due to a lack of focus in studying and figured why waste more time and money. So, when I left college I didn't have any real skills or training to make myself marketable in the civilian sector. That, coupled with my dad being in the military, was a major factor in my decision to join the Air Force.

Oddly enough, people I knew from other military branches were the biggest Air Force recruiters. They told me the quality of life was much better and (no insult against the other services) they were correct.

Upon completion of my first enlistment I still didn't know what I would do if I separated. I still had bills and a car to pay for, so I decided to stay.

For a guy who had nothing to offer the Air Force except himself, you can't beat the benefits and the support they offer.

Is the Air Force perfect? No, but things have gotten much better. The pay is okay, but the quality of life benefits are unsurpassed, and most civilian companies cannot touch our professional support services.

If I have learned one thing during my career, it is to have a plan whether you decide to stay or go. Even if you do stay for a full 20 years, plan for life after the Air Force. My immediate goal is to finish school and get my bachelor's degree, and the Air Force has provided that opportunity.

As for the future, I'll see how far I can advance in the Air Force and contribute as much as I can.



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Commander

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"Excellence – not our goal, but our standard."

– 47th FTW motto

FPCON Bravo

Laughlin is currently in Force Protection Condition Bravo. All people should remain vigilant and report suspicious activity to security forces at 298-5100.



Please recycle this newspaper.



Drinking, driving can wreck your life

By Richard Zowie

12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE – What seemed like a normal Sunday afternoon in Athens, Ga., turned into a tragic day for my family. My cousin, Randy Burris, was in his neighbor's front yard talking with a woman who was walking her daughter in a stroller.

Hearing a car approach from behind, Randy glanced over his shoulder and saw that it was speeding out of control. It rounded the corner, left the roadway and headed straight toward them.

The woman was unable to get the baby and stroller over a rut in the yard, so Randy pushed the mother out of the vehicle's path and grabbed the stroller just in time to minimize the impact on the stroller and baby.

The woman and baby escaped without serious injury, but the car struck Randy. He died two days later. The driver was cited for driving under the influence, driving without license or insurance, driving too fast for conditions, leaving the scene of the accident and felony vehicular homicide. He must now live the rest of his life knowing his senseless actions ripped a precious life from a family.

Unfortunately, Randy's death isn't an isolated incident. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 16,653 Americans were killed in crashes involving alcohol in 2000. This accounted for nearly 40 percent of all automobile fatalities that year, a 2 percent increase from 1999.

The traffic safety administration further reported that about three out of every 10 Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some time in their lives.

Even more disturbing, the safety administra-

tion also discovered that, among the drunk driving fatalities in 1999, nearly two alcohol-related traffic deaths occurred per hour, 48 per day and 303 per week. To put this on a more alarming level, these deaths were the equivalent of two jetliners crashing every week.

In addition to the guilt surviving drunk drivers must bear, military people caught driving while intoxicated can face career-ending and damaging punishment.

"If death results, the person could be charged with involuntary manslaughter, which could include a maximum sentence of confinement for 10 years..."

"The disposition is the commander's decision," said Maj. Stephen Kelly, deputy staff judge advocate for the 12th Flying Training Wing. "Our recommendation will be driven by the facts of the situation and the individual involved."

For a DWI offense, the punishment ranges from Article 15 nonjudicial punishment to a general court-martial. If there's no personal injury, the maximum sentence in a general court-martial is a bad conduct discharge or a dismissal from the service if the member is an officer. For enlisted members, it may also include forfeiture of all pay and allowances, confinement for six months, reduction to E-1 and a fine.

If death results, the person could be charged with involuntary manslaughter, which could include a maximum sentence of confinement for 10 years in addition to other measures.

With these cold consequences to consider, if you choose to drink, it's imperative that you plan for a designated driver or take a taxi home. If you see people preparing to drive after having too much to drink, do what you can to stop them. If you can't stop them, call the police immediately.

If there's one thing I pray for, it's the endurance of Randy's legacy. That legacy is about a man laying down his life for a child and about the irreversible effects of drunk driving.

Actionline 298-5351

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.



Rick Rosborg
Col. Rick Rosborg
47th FTW Commander

FAMCAMP stays

Question: We heard the Laughlin FAMCAMP is changing its policy from staying 180 days and then moving out one day before returning, to staying only 120 days and then moving out 30 days before being allowed to return. This will only persuade long-term RV'ers to find a more permanent place somewhere else because of the inconvenience of moving so much.

Answer: As of Nov. 7, a new policy was implemented on extended stays in FAMCAMP to better meet the needs of the Air Force RV camping community and the base.

The maximum length of stay in the FAMCAMP has changed from 180 days to 120 days and the minimum time between stays has changed from one day to 30 days. As the commander, I may waive the minimum and maximum limits to accommodate special requests from active duty members. In conjunction with these changes, we have implemented new daily, weekly and monthly rates to help us meet our financial obligations. The rates represent a fair and equitable pricing policy that is in line with other Air Force facilities and the RV camping industry downtown and across the nation.

Community Update

Canopies at Playgrounds

Housing is currently in the process of getting new playground equipment for the base. During summer months the equipment tends to get extremely hot and unusable. Housing is buying canopies to help combat the heat. The cost for the entire project is between \$550,000-\$650,000 to be completed incrementally as funds become available.

Power outages

Based on the Air Education and Training Command electrical engineer's report, Laughlin will implement changes to the grounding systems on certain power poles to help stop power outages. It appears most of the short-term power outages are caused by animals getting into the system. More recommendations will be implemented as funding becomes available.

Airmanship

Intended to help all airmen articulate the Air Force's vision of aerospace power

What is a target?

A target is a specific area, object, person, function or facility subject to military action. A target is the "thing" on which we want to create an effect.

Air Force Chief of Staff Survey ready to launch

By Master Sgt. Jim Greeley
Air Force Print News

The Air Force chief of staff wants to know what changes Air Force people want in their organizations, and what those people think of the leaders they work for, from the squadron level through higher headquarters.

To that end service officials will launch the 2002 Chief of Staff Survey Tuesday. This survey, which has been done every two years since 1997, is an avenue directly to the top.

"This is a great opportunity to provide direct feedback about how we're doing in our organizations,"

said Gen. John P. Jumper, Air Force chief of staff. "To sustain the world's pre-eminent aerospace force, we must ensure excellence in the work environment for everyone. The survey provides me, and leaders at all levels in your chain of command, valuable information."

The survey was originally slated to start in October, but was delayed when operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle started.

Developers have gone to great lengths to make the survey fast and easy to take.

The Web-based survey takes about 30 to 45 minutes, and has about 100 questions covering three major

areas — organizational climate and leadership, A-76 competitive sourcing and major command-specific questions.

Another key in developing the survey was ensuring anonymity.

"We've taken every measure to ensure all inputs are identity-masked," said Lori Marcum, a member of the survey development team at Randolph Air Force Base. "Anonymity is crucial because it allows people to be brutally honest without fear of retribution."

The survey will be available for you to take during the entire seven-week period. Also, in order to optimize Web traffic flow, scheduled re-

gional e-mails will be sent out to stateside bases to remind people to take the survey.

Honesty is exactly what Jumper wants. "I expect you to give direct and candid feedback," Jumper said. "That's why the survey is anonymous, and that's why the questions on the survey are intentionally hard-hitting."

The survey begins Tuesday and runs through March 8. You can take the survey from a government computer (dot-mil or dot-gov) at <http://csafsurvey.af.mil/> and a non-government computer (dot-com) at <http://www.csafsurvey.com/> at any time during the survey period.

Chapel to honor King

The base chapel will have a Martin Luther King theme during its 11 a.m. Protestant worship Sunday at the base chapel. It will also host a gospel music children's sermon with a lesson from King's childhood.

For more information, call 298-5111.

Compost pickup schedule

Compost pickup is the first and third Monday of each month. Leaves and grass clippings must be bagged and placed curb-side for pickup.

For more information, call 298-5759.

CLEP study program set

The Education Office has study sessions available for the five general CLEP tests every week. The classes last for one hour a day for one week. The class for the week of Jan. 21 will be on Social Science and History.

The next two weeks will feature Humanities and Natural Science.

For more information, call the Education Office at 298-5545.

Awards banquet set

The 47th Flying Training Wing 2001 Annual Awards Banquet will be held at 6 p.m. Jan. 26 at Club XL.

There will be three choices for meals: tenderloin of beef kabob with seasoned vegetables served over long grain rice, fresh-steamed broccoli with cheese sauce and a salad; grilled chicken breast with seasoned mushroom sauce, duchess

Newsline

potatoes with bacon bits and scallion, vegetables cooked in garlic butter and a salad; or jumbo stuffed shells with marinara sauce and vegetables cooked in garlic butter.

The first two meals cost \$12 for members and \$15 for nonmembers. The last meal cost \$10 for members and \$13 for nonmembers.

Members wishing to attend can sign up through their orderly room. Commanders can RSVP by calling 298-5769 and nominees can RSVP by calling 298-5400. Today is the last day to sign up.

The Child Development Center will be open for the event from 6 to 11 p.m. Reservations for the CDC must be made by Wednesday.

For more information, call 298-5456.

Life skill classes available

The Life Skills Clinic is holding classes on anger and stress management, parenting skills and couples communication and marriage enhancement. Register by Jan. 25 with your preference on day and time.

For more information, call 298-6422 or go to the Life Skills Clinic, building 375.

Gospel Fest set

Gospel Fest is set for 5 p.m. Feb. 3 at the base chapel. Rev. Charles Dorband from San Antonio and his church choir are scheduled to attend along with a Del Rio community choir.

For more information, call 298-5111.

Recruiting team to visit

A Recruiter Screening Team will visit Laughlin Feb. 5 to tell people about the challenges and rewards of recruiting duty.

All senior airmen through master sergeants with less than 16 years of total active military service are eligible to apply. Spouses are encouraged to attend.

For more information, call 298-5244.

Hotline no sub for 911

The Texas Department of Public Safety Roadside Assistance Hotline number is only to be used to report non life-threatening situations on Texas roads and highways.

The number, printed on the back of virtually all Texas driver licenses and identification cards, should be used when stranded with car problems, hazardous road conditions, debris in the roadway and to report suspicious activity at rest areas. The first option for emergency situations is to dial 911.

The Texas Department of Public Safety web site at www.txdps.state.tx.us/ has more information.

Extra recycling available

Recycling personnel will check the closest dumpster enclosure at each building for cardboard, pallets and scrap metal when picking up recycling material from buildings. Extra recycling pickups and recycling containers are available for times when your building receives a lot of extra materials.

For more information call 298-5247.

'Taxes,' from page 1

prepare all versions of the form 1040 and child and education credit forms.

However, they cannot assist with business or rent-related forms, nor complicated capital gains and losses. VITA is designed to help prepare

basic individual federal tax returns. Squadron representatives will not prepare state tax forms.

Most of the necessary forms required to file taxes are available in the tax center. It is located in room 18 of the wing headquarters building from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The tax

center will open Tuesday. Federal and state tax forms also may be downloaded from www.IRS.gov.

Schedule appointments and address all tax questions to your VITA representative listed below.

For VITA details, call Janice Bush at 298-4858.

'Town hall,' from page 1

computer terminal will also be placed in the BX so customers can order merchandise online at the store.

Roger Pastrano, commissary director, fielded most of the questions about the base commissary.

The quality of produce was the main concern about the commissary for the people in attendance. Several people were concerned that the produce seemed to go bad quickly. Pastrano assured those in attendance that he would look into the problem, and fix anything that needed fixing.

Pastrano also answered questions about prices. He explained the commissary sells at cost and that someone who shops at the commissary saves 30.4 percent over someone who doesn't.

The meeting ended with many attendees receiving small gift packages from AAFES and a chance to ask one-on-one questions with the person of their choice.

Updates to the issues raised at the town hall meeting will appear in future issues of the Border Eagle.

Squadron

47th Flying Training Wing
47th Civil Engineer Squadron
47th Contracting Squadron
47th Comptroller Flight
47th Mission Support Squadron
47th MSS
47th Security Forces Squadron
47th SFS
47th SFS
47th Communications Squadron
47th CS
47th Medical Group
47th MDG
47th MDG
47th MDG
47th Operations Group
47th OPS GP
47th OPS GP
47th Operations Support Squadron
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47th OSS
84th Flying Training Squadron
85th Flying Training Squadron
85th FTS
86th Flying Training Squadron
86th Flying Training Squadron
87th Flying Training Squadron

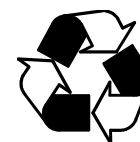
Name

2nd Lt. Cherie Griffin
Staff Sgt. Sean McCauley
Staff Sgt. Victor Tamez
2nd Lt. Chris Velez
Freda Borders
Senior Airman Crystal Bartlett
Staff Sgt. Paul Bogumil
Staff Sgt. Jared Gentile
Airman 1st Class Daniel Olivares
Senior Airman Kenny King
Airman 1st Class Kevin Balch
Airman 1st Class Eloy Fenandez-Gonzalez
Staff Sgt. Amy Williamson
Senior Airman Theda Robinson
1st Lt. Mark Bain
Frank Scott
Arla Brewton
Alberta Dodd
Capt. Paul Cover
Senior Airman Timothy Miller
Staff Sgt. William Bartram
Master Sgt. Tom Soderstrom
1st Lt. Denis Casaubon
Capt. Scott Crabtree
1st Lt. Charley Parent
Capt. Matt Brenner
1st Lt. Nate Day
1st Lt Jason O'Brien

Phone

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298-5383

Please recycle.



Poor
health, lost
income,
jail,
discharge...
Ecstasy?
Maybe they
should
change the
name.

SUPT Class 02-04 members graduate today,

Compiled from staff reports

Student Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 02-04 graduates at 10 a.m. today in the Anderson Hall auditorium.

The 52-week SUPT program prepares student pilots for the spectrum of Air Force aircraft and flying missions.

Training begins with three weeks of physiological and academic training to prepare students for flight.

The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the twin-engine, subsonic T-37 "Tweet." In the T-37, students learn flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing, aerobatics and formation flying.

After primary training, the future pilots are selected for advanced in-

Brig. Gen. Douglas J. Richardson, Space Warfare Center Commander at Schriever Air Force Base, Colo., will be the speaker at today's graduation.

flight training in a specialized track.

The tracks include tanker, bomber and cargo aircraft training in the T-1 aircraft; fighter training in the T-38; turbo propeller aircraft training in the Navy's T-44; and helicopter training in the Army's UH-1. Advanced training in a track takes about 26 weeks.

Graduates of Class 02-04 have been assigned to aircraft at duty stations throughout the world.



1st Lt. Brent Manbeck
C-21, Peterson AFB, Colo.



1st Lt. Brian Phillips
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kan.



1st Lt. Jesus Soto
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Daniel Aber
KC-135, Milwaukee, Wis. (ANG)



1st Lt. Joe Garcia Jr.
KC-135, Fairchild AFB, Wash.
Class leader



1st Lt. Jamie Roser
KC-10, Travis AFB, Calif. (AFRC)
Assistant class leader



2nd Lt. Jonathan Behunin
C-5, Dover AFB, Del.



2nd Lt. John Camino
F-15E, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.



(Courtesy photo)

Pictured are the three jets used to train Laughlin student pilots. Clockwise from left are the T-38 Talon, T-1A Jayhawk and T-37 Tweet.

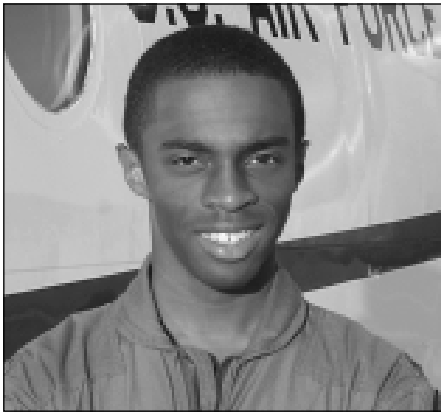


2nd Lt. Rudy Chavez
T-37, Laughlin AFB



2nd Lt. Mark Colwell
T-1, Laughlin AFB

transition from students to Air Force pilots



2nd Lt. Daryl Corneille
KC-10, McGuire AFB, N.J.



2nd Lt. Kevin Cossey
T-38, Laughlin AFB



2nd Lt. Gordon Frankenfield
KC-135, March ARB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Chad Hamel
A-10A, Boise, Idaho (ANG)



2nd Lt. Albert Hibpshman
KC-135, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.



2nd Lt. Elisabeth King
KC-135, Eielson AFB, Ala.



2nd Lt. Peter Larrabee
C-21, Yokota Air Base, Japan



2nd Lt. Marc Lowe
RC-135, Offutt AFB, Neb.



2nd Lt. Jared Mandella
F-15E, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.



2nd Lt. Martin Mentch
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



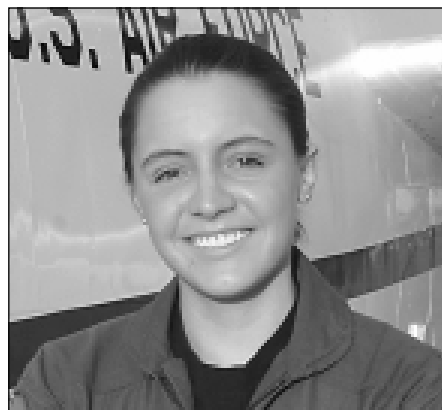
2nd Lt. Brian Nicosia
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Daniel Patak
A-10A, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Samuel C. Stitt III
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Michael Trujillo
HC-130, Moody AFB, Ga.



2nd Lt. Don Walpole
T-37, Laughlin AFB



2nd Lt. Jake Wilcox
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



Base person pleads guilty at court-martial

By Staff Sgt. Tara Cole

*Laughlin Legal Office
Adverse Actions NCOIC*

A technical sergeant assigned to the 96th Flying Training Squadron pleaded guilty to two charges and three specifications of violating articles 121 and 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice in a general court-martial Dec. 3.

A military judge found the technical sergeant guilty of wrongful appropriation, writing worthless checks and failing to maintain sufficient funds. She was sentenced to five months' confinement and reduced to airman basic with total forfeiture of all pay and benefits.

An investigation was initiated based upon an allegation that the accused used the 96th Flying Training Squadron International Merchant Purchase Authorization Card (IMPAC) to make unauthorized purchases. During the course of the investigation, it was discovered that she had written numerous insufficient-fund checks to local businesses totaling \$4,220.60.

The accused was also convicted of receiving Basic Allowance for Housing to which she was not entitled in the amount of \$2,834.13. She received BAH for six months after moving into the enlisted dormitory.

The technical sergeant was escorted to Wackenhut Confinement Facility in Del Rio to begin serving her five months' confinement. She was later transferred to Lackland Confinement Facility to serve the remainder of her sentence.

Friday, Border Eagle. Wednesday, this newspaper: <http://www.af.mil/newspaper>

Club members may win Caribbean cruises

Air Education and Training Command Services officials announced Jan. 8 the first club promotion of 2002 will feature two Caribbean cruises as the grand prizes.

Called Cupid's Caribbean Cruise, the February promotion in commemoration of Valentine's Day will award prizes to club members throughout the month followed by a drawing at the end of February for two seven-day Caribbean cruises for two, said Bob Carlberg, AETC Services chief of programs.

The promotion will run in AETC clubs Feb. 1-28.

"The Cupid's Caribbean Cruise program thanks our current club members for their loyalty by offering them a chance to win one of several weekly prizes during February and a Caribbean Cruise as the grand prize," said John Hanna of the AETC Services Business Branch.

Current AETC club members will receive an entry form from club food operation cashiers with a purchase of more than \$2, Hanna said. The club member completes the entry form and returns it with the cash register receipt.

AETC club members do not have to make a purchase to obtain an entry form. A club member may prepare a color sketch of the Air Force club logo on their club bill and present the sketch to the cashier. They will receive one entry form per day for each original color logo sketch they bring in, he said.

For more information on this promotion, call Club XL at 298-5374.

(Courtesy of AETC News Service)

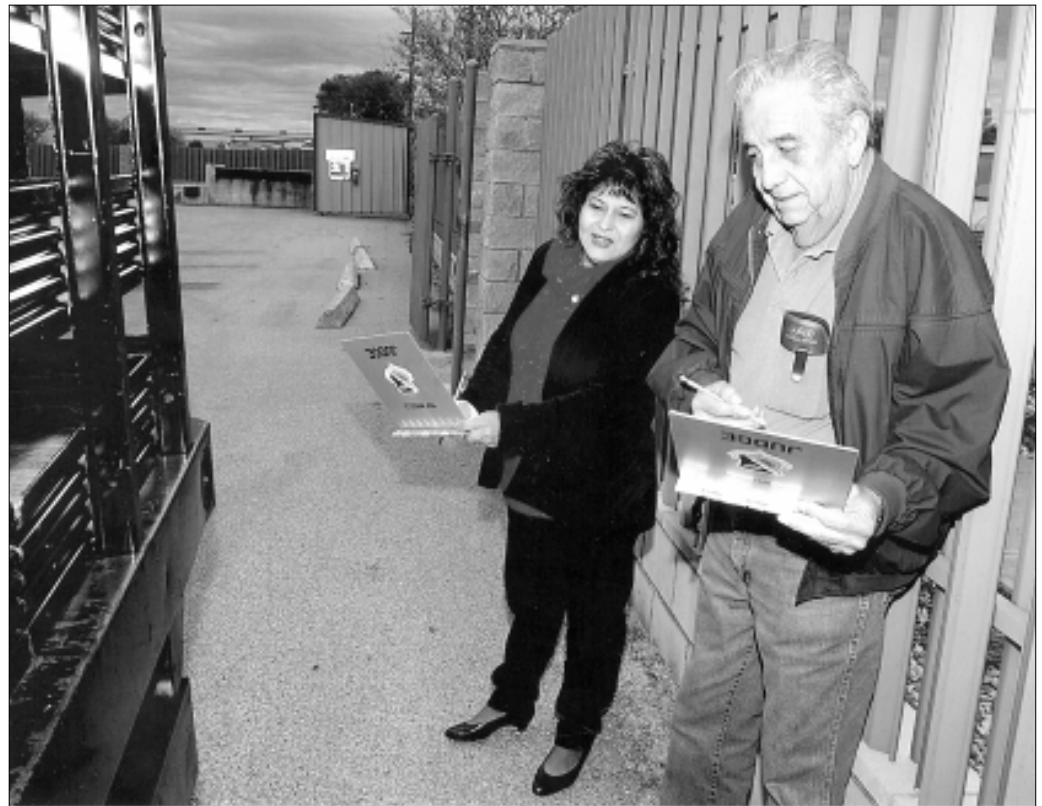


Photo by Dave Niebergall

Top wheels

Leticia Salas, 47th Service Division logistics support manager, and Hector Pena, 47th Support Group quality assurance evaluator, judge a government-owned vehicle during the base's annual Top Wheels competition Dec. 13. The Top Wheels competition judges unit government vehicles for appearance, cleanliness and general upkeep. The winner in the general-purpose category was the 47th Support Group Supply Division, and the winner of the special-purpose category was the 47th Support Group Fuels Flight.

New Air Force TV News edition airs

The annual tradition of discussions with senior Air Force leadership about the state of the service continues with the first edition of Air Force Television News in 2002.

The program, entitled "Senior Leadership Special," has become one of the most watched editions of the biweekly production.

This year, Tech. Sgts. Chris Beckwith and Paul Firman and Staff Sgt. Michael Noel are the correspondents for the program, anchored by Tech. Sgt. David Pullen.

Beckwith discusses the Air Force and its future with Air Force Secretary Dr. James G. Roche in topics ranging from the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks to the need for more base closings.

Firman sits down with Gen. John Jumper, Air Force chief of staff, to discuss issues from the terrorist attacks to progress of the F-22 Raptor program and the increased need for

the Joint Strike Fighter.

Noel's conversation with Chief Master Sgt. Jim Finch, the chief master sergeant of the Air Force, deals with such topics as quality of life, the increasing role of the enlisted corps in the service's decision-making process, and how hard work and an attractive career opportunity have turned around a downward trend in Air Force recruiting.

Air Force Television News is a biweekly production of Air Force News Service. It is distributed on videotape to more than 3,000 military and civilian outlets worldwide and is seen on more than 700 cable television outlets nationwide. It is also available on the Internet at www.af.mil, as well as being a featured presentation on The Pentagon Channel. The program is the only military production offered with closed captioning.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

19th Air Force to see new commander

Maj. Gen. Steven R. Polk, 19th Air Force commander, has been nominated for promotion to lieutenant general and reassignment as the vice commander of Pacific Air Forces.

Maj. Gen. James E. Sandstrom has been named to succeed Gen. Polk at 19th Air Force.

Pentagon officials announced the assignments Jan. 11. A 19th Air Force change-of-command ceremony is scheduled for Thursday at Randolph.

Gen. Polk has served as commander of 19th Air Force since May 1999. As commander, he is responsible for the day-to-day training of about 19,000 U.S. and allied students annually. The student training ranges from entry level flying through advanced combat crew training. The students ultimately become fully qualified aircrew personnel for the warfighting commands. The 19th Air Force is composed of more than 31,000 assigned personnel and 1,800 aircraft in 25 units throughout the United States.

Gen. Sandstrom is currently serving as special assistant to the commander, Air Education and Training Command. He previously was the director of operations for Headquarters U.S. Central Command.

(Courtesy of AETC News Service)



Maj. Gen. James Sandstrom

Training command turns 60

By Master Sgt. Michael Briggs

*Air Education and Training Command
Public Affairs*

When they began flying training operations during World War II, the members of the Army Air Corps Flying Training Command probably never could have envisioned the growth and changes in their industry.

More than 25 million graduates later, the recruiting, training and education arm of the Air Force observes its 60th anniversary Wednesday.

Today, the members of Air Education and Training Command are doing things not even dreamed about on the pages of comic books and science fiction novels six decades ago.

At the same time, AETC remains actively linked to its heritage today. Take the T-6A Texan II, for example. The newest trainer aircraft in the Air Force inventory connects the past to the present, as it is named for an aircraft used to train aviators during World War II; the T-6A Texan.

The heritage of the command and the people who conduct the mission are the reasons AETC has remained the longest continually operating major command in the Air Force, said Gen. Don Cook, AETC commander.

"The men and women who conduct our mission today follow in the footsteps of the great active duty, Reserve, Guard and civilian airmen who forged and developed this command," the general said. "It is our heritage that binds us together, our innovative spirit that keeps us out front, and our warrior drive that will build on our successes as we move forward into the future."

The AETC of today originally began as three separate commands in the 1940s. For lineage purposes, the command traces its roots to the Air Corps Flying Training Command, since that is the command the technical training and education commands joined to eventually form Air Training Command in 1978, which later became Air Education and Training Command in 1993.

The Army stood up the Air Corps Flying Training Command Jan 23, 1942, in Washington, D.C. In July 1943, the technical training command and basic military training function joined the flying training command to form the Army Air Forces Training Command.

That year, the command graduated 11,411 pilots and 600,000 technicians, according to command history. Those numbers dwarf the training production of today's smaller force that produced about 7,400 total

aviation graduates and 131,000 technical training graduates in fiscal 2001. The command has become significantly leaner in terms of people and bases since World War II. At the peak of the war, the training command consisted of 461,656 people and 438 training bases. Today, 101,000 people conduct the mission at 13 training bases.

By the end of World War II, the command was feeling the effects of a drawdown. It was reduced to 39 bases and fewer than 200,000 members. In 1946, the named changed from Army Air Forces Training Command to simply Air Training Command. Also that year, Air University, the element that would eventually put the word "education" in AETC's mission and name, stood up as a major command.

By the mid-1950s, the command had experienced the birth of the Air Force as a separate branch of the military, increased production to provide aviators and technicians for the Korean War and was again facing a drawdown. A critical function of training for the war effort occurred in June 1950 when Air Training Command began to pick up the crew-training mission. That mission expanded to the point that ATC established the Crew Training Air Force in 1952, which eventually went back to Tactical Air Command and Strategic Air Command in 1958.

Also in the '50s, the command assumed operational control of Air Force recruiting on March 6, 1954. Later in the decade, in 1957, the command headquarters moved from Scott Air Force Base, Ill., to Randolph AFB, where it remains today.

AU joined the command in 1978, left again in 1983 to become a major command again and returned to the command July 1, 1993, when ATC became AETC.

From its beginnings in World War II to today's operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle, AETC has adjusted and refined its missions to provide America's Air Force, other branches of the military and allied nations more than 10 million technical training graduates, nearly 300,000 pilots, 160,000 navigators, nine million graduates from field training programs, more than 5.2 million basic military training graduates and nearly 500,000 graduates from officer training and ROTC programs, according to command history.

For more details about the history of AETC, people can visit the command historian's Web site at www.aetc.randolph.af.mil/ho.

Interested in the Air Force?

*Call Del Rio's
Air Force recruiter at
774-0911.*

Vandenberg tot's voice blesses America

By Master Sgt. Ty Foster

Air Force Print News

Throughout the last few months, Americans have displayed their patriotism proudly. They honor Old Glory everywhere — on cars, in homes and on lapel pins. Patriotic hymns stir their hearts and bring tears to their eyes.

Two-year-old Erin Bradley is no exception.

Barely speaking at the time of the Sept. 11 attacks, she began singing "God Bless America" after hearing it on television.

"We just started singing it with her, and she caught on," said Erin's father, Staff Sgt. Chris Bradley, who is from the 30th Civil Engineer Squadron at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. Erin sang the patriotic tune everywhere, he said. One day, while Chris and his wife, Dara, were in a local shopping mall, crowds of people stopped to listen to Erin.

People really seem to be uplifted during her on-the-spot performances, Chris said.

"It's brought some people to tears," he said.

One listener told the Bradleys that Erin's patriotism was a great story for a local news-cast, Chris said. KCOY-TV, a local CBS affiliate, jumped on the story, then CNN ran the feed on Thanksgiving day. The phone

calls came rolling in.

Less than a week later, Erin and her parents were in New York as guests on "Good Morning America."

That morning, young Erin performed for millions of morning viewers. After her performance, Erin and Diane Sawyer visited with each other while Erin sat in a battery-powered Jeep. GMA producers later sent the Jeep to Erin as a Christmas gift, Chris said.

The fervor did not die down after the GMA broadcast. Newspapers from Los Angeles to Boston have printed stories about Erin. CBS affiliates in Seattle and Chicago ran the KCOY story, and GMA televised an encore presentation on Christmas day.

It was not long before it became necessary for Erin's parents to get her an agent.

Now, Jay Leno's "The Tonight Show" producers are also trying to get Erin in for a performance.

Erin's dad likes to keep things in perspective with regard to all the attention she has been getting.

"It's nice that people enjoy her singing," he said. "She's my little girl, and I'd love her just as much even if she wasn't in the spotlight."



Photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Ramos

Two-year-old Erin Bradley, daughter of Staff Sgt. Chris Bradley from the 30th Civil Engineer Squadron at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., sings for a technician from a local TV news crew.

**Thinking
about
getting
out? Think
again!**

Call Master
Sgt. Jimmie
Davis, 47th
Flying
Training Wing
career
assistance
adviser, at
298-5456 for
guidance.



The *XLer*



Photo by Airman Timothy J. Stein

Airman Evelyn Funchess

47th Flying Training Wing command section apprentice

Hometown:

Hazlehurst, Miss.

Family: Mom, dad and two brothers

Time at Laughlin:

1 year

Time in service:

1 year, 3 months

Name one way to improve life at

Laughlin: Re-open the base theater and show up-to-date movies

Greatest accomplishment:

Working at the wing

Hobbies: Playing basketball and taking road trips

Bad habit:

Shopping too much

Favorite film:

Friday

Favorite band:

Underground Kings

If you could spend one hour with any person, who would it be and why?

Trese Williams. She was my best friend growing up. She passed away right after we graduated.

Chapel Schedule



Catholic

Saturday

5 p.m., Mass

Sunday

● 9:30 a.m., Mass

● 11 a.m., Little Rock Scripture Study in Chapel Fellowship Hall

Thursday

6 p.m., Choir

Tuesday-Friday

● 12:05 p.m., Mass

● 12:05 p.m. and 7 p.m., Holy Days of Obligation

Reconciliation Before Sunday Mass, Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. and by appointment

Religious

Education/

Bible Study

11 a.m. and noon Sunday

Jewish

Call Max Stool at 775-4519

Muslim

Call Dr. Mostafa Salama at 768-9200

Nondenominational

Friday

7 p.m., Unity in Community Services

Protestant

Sunday

11 a.m., General worship

Wednesday

● 12:30-2:15 p.m., Women's Bible study at chapel
● 7 p.m., Choir at chapel

For more information on chapel events and services, call 298-5111.

The Air Force rewards good ideas with money. Check out the IDEA Program Data System at <https://ideas.satx.disa.mil>, or call the 47th Flying Training Wing Manpower Office at 298-5236.



Bowling standings

Team	Points	Team	Points
Boeing	80-40	CE	60-60
OSS	73-47	Services	56-64
DeCA	66-54	SFS	43-77
47th FTW	60-60	Commtracting	42-78

XL Fitness Center hours

Monday –
Thursday:
5 a.m. to midnight
Friday:
5 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday,
Sunday,
Holidays:
10 a.m. to 8 p.m.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Scott King

Star-spangled detail

Airmen, sailors and Marines helped unfold a giant American flag prior to the NFL playoff wild-card game Saturday, which featured the New York Jets and the Oakland Raiders.